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2011-08-03

CCMR Building Partner Defense Institutions

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Article by Kate Oliver, Photos courtesy of Roseann Johnson



The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Partnership Strategy and Stability Operations (DASD PSSO), conducted a Defense Institution Building (DIB) conference in conjunction with the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) 20-21 June in Washington, DC. The conference brought together over 200 U.S. and foreign government and military officials to discuss the challenges and future of working with partner nations to build the capacity of their national defense institutions.

"Increased attention to building the institutional capacity of partner nations is critical to sustaining security," noted Dr. James Schear, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Partnership Strategy and Stability Operations. "This conference provides a venue to discuss critical DIB challenges, identify strategies, compare approaches and discuss how to enhance our collective effort in meeting this critical challenge."

The conference had sessions on the key functional areas of DIB, including policy and strategy development, planning and budgeting, human resource management, logistics, professional military education, civil-military relations, interagency cooperation, and regional challenges to building defense institutions, according to Roseann Johnson, conference coordinator at the Center for Civil-Military

Relations (CCMR), School for International Graduate Studies (SIGS), Naval Postgraduate School.

CCMR is the Department of Defense locale for expertise in the strategic, operational, and academic dimensions of civil military relations. Established at NPS in 1994 to meet the needs of emerging democracies in Central and Eastern Europe, CCMR provides advanced education to both foreign and US civilian and military participants. Through its programs and research, CCMR formulates and applies knowledge and practice to build capacity in areas such as: security and defense institution building, defense reform, stability and support operations, combating terrorism, among others. CCMR is part of the NPS School of International Graduate Studies.

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Partnership Strategy and Stability Operations sponsored the DIB Conference and reports to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations, Low-Intensity Conflict and Inter-Dependent Capabilities.

